

HENRY L. BEACH.

FEBRUARY 29, 1904.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. McCUMBER (for Mr. BURTON), from the Committee on Pensions,
submitted the following

REPORT.

[To accompany H. R. 8998.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 8998) granting an increase of pension to Henry L. Beach, have examined the same and report:

The report of the Committee on Invalid Pensions of the House of Representatives, hereto appended, is adopted and the passage of the bill is recommended.

The House report is as follows:

Henry L. Beach, now 66 years of age, served as a private in Company M, First Wisconsin Heavy Artillery, from August 27, 1864, to June 26, 1865, when honorably discharged.

He was under treatment in 1864 for two days for fever and two days for dyspepsia.

He is now pensioned under the act of June 27, 1890, at \$12 per month for total disability due to rheumatism and disease of heart and of rectum.

His claim under the general law, filed in 1891, and based upon rheumatism, constipation, and piles, was properly rejected by the Pension Bureau in June, 1900, upon the ground of no record of treatment or other satisfactory evidence connecting said disabilities with his military service.

This action was affirmed by Assistant Secretary Campbell in October, 1902.

When last examined, on August 17, 1898, the board of surgeons rated him at \$30 per month for rheumatism, disease of heart and rectum, and paralysis, and the surgeons stated that there were symptoms of ataxia, coordination in walking being very imperfect, inability to walk in the dark, with muscles atrophied, and partial paralysis of bowels and bladder.

Proof filed with your committee shows that the soldier has not been able to perform any work for some years, that he is a poor man, without property or means of support, and that had it not been for the assistance of friends he would have been obliged to depend upon the charity of the public.

Medical testimony filed shows that the soldier requires an attendant constantly if out of the house and a part of the time if within.

Relief to the extent of an increase of this soldier's pension to \$30 per month is in line with numerous precedents, in view of his helpless and destitute condition.

The passage of the bill is therefore recommended.

